

Congregation B'nai Torah - Celebrating Over 25 Years Together

TORAH TIMES

December 2024 30 Cheshvan-30 Kislev

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**THE CBT FAMILY EVENT
OF THE YEAR!**

**HANUKKAH SHABBAT
SERVICE & DINNER**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27TH
AT 6:00 PM**

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL STUDENTS &
KIDS UNDER 4 FREE!
BRING YOUR MENORAH & CANDLES**

**PLEASE RSVP BY
DECEMBER 13TH**

See page 14 for Menu

A Message From Rabbi Kane



All religions are at their best when they are a minority voice, when they have influence but not power, when they make space for people whose views are different from their own, when they offer others their stories and songs, hospitality and food, seeking nothing in return.

Religion isn't about power but about the powerless. It's about those who have more than they need sharing their blessings with those who have less than they need. The candles of Hanukah are the light we share with the world - Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

So let us not hide our light this year out of the sense of impending darkness. It seems that there is more hate this year in the world, not just against Jews, but against every group that isn't Our group.

Remember, it always feels like the darkness lasts longer than it should. At Hanukah, we celebrate a time when the light lasted longer than expected. It is our chance this year to enlighten our corner of the world with deeds of loving kindness. So our light too, will seem like one of God's miracles.





The Presidents' Message



Thank you, Rabbi Shapiro, Rabbi Lennick, Cantor Walters, Charlie, and Larry for assisting and leading services in November during Rabbi Kane's time off.

We had amazing events in November as a Jewish community, including the Estate sale and Sisterhood dinner with B'nai Torah, the Jewish Federation had two remarkably successful events with their 2024 Pacesetters dinner and the dedication of the Magen David Adam ICU on Wheels to Israel.

The Shalom School continues to evolve with an enrollment of seventy-seven students, utterly amazing! It has been agreed upon that classes will continue next semester at Temple Beth El and B'nai Torah will be hosting Holiday and Special events.

As always great appreciation for all that volunteer their precious time to making B'nai Torah a close-knit family.

Look forward to the holidays and especially the Hard Rock Community Hannukah Party on December 15th , the Sisterhood Hannukah Part on December 19th , and the CBT Hannukah Dinner on December 27th .

I would be remiss in my responsibilities not to mention and share some real life situations, Anti-Semitism continues to be a focus of concern and touches us each in many different shapes and forms, we still have Hostages in Israel with no end in sight, and most recently B'nai Torah was the subject of a Hate Crime, on Social Media, which has been reported to our Chief of Police as well as the Anti-Defamation League. We continue to ensure that security is ever present at our services and events. Please feel free to discuss with me any insights or concerns to these issues and I will be sure that they are shared and addressed.

Pray for peace and the return of the Hostages.

Looking forward to seeing you at services.

With compassion, mercy, intent, and love, wishing your health and prosperity .

Howard Silverstein, President
HowardHeyHeyAyin1@gmail.com 815-980-7007

Howard Silverstein, President

Next Page *KABBALAH KORNER*****

*****KABBALAH KORNER*****

Sharing wisdom from a 3,000 year old mystical tradition

December, 2024 Cheshvan - Kislev, 5785

Life is full of unknowns. It is a universal truth that, despite our best efforts to control and plan, we can never fully predict what tomorrow will bring. In fact, there is something deeply unsettling about the unknown. It evokes fear, anxiety, and doubt. We fear what we cannot see, what we cannot understand. And... it is a fear that we all share.

The realization that all of life is unknowable can either paralyze us or empower us. Once we accept that we will never have all the answers, we unlock the possibility to experience life in an exhilarating and profound manner.

This idea that life is unknowable can feel overwhelming. After all, we are wired to seek certainty, to plan for the future, and to protect ourselves from potential dangers. The very real truth is that there is no way to guarantee that our marriages will be peaceful, that our children will find perfect happiness, or that our dreams will come to fruition exactly as we imagined. Fearing what could go wrong, obsessing and strategizing toward perfect (or even just preferred) outcomes, will only rob us of happiness.

If the unknown is all there ever is and fear is a choice, it makes sense that we could choose to see the unknowns of our lives differently.

Uncertainty is, at its core, an invitation to explore and enact curiosity.

What could go right?

What gift could I find at this moment?

What opportunities are there for my growth?

How can I cultivate more trust in the process of my life?

The unknown does not have to be a source of dread; it can be a source of possibility.

Congregation B'nai Torah Religious School Report

By Helen Farb



The Religious School Board met, to discuss the Shalom School and the rest of the school year. It is going very smoothly at Beth-El. They have established classrooms and access to bathrooms for children. There are now 77 children enrolled in the school. During the summer we will discuss how to make our facilities more school friendly. The Shalom School will stay at TBE for the 2nd semester with the caveat that CBT hosts festival events at our facilities (e.g. Purim, Model Seder, Mitzvah Day).

If we have these events at CBT we will need many volunteers to help at stations and with food. We want the parents of both synagogues to enjoy events at Congregation B'nai Torah.

The Shalom School will be at Hard Rock Hanukkah on Sunday, December 15 and has many fun family activities planned. CBT will also have a table with Sisterhood and will have many family events. All the children have been practicing their songs and will perform there at noon. Volunteers needed for our booth and the food line.

Trienah and Daniel Y'frah taught music during Rabbi Kane's vacation. They rehearsed the music for Hanukkah. Every week there is a different number of students. On November 3rd ,we covered B'etzelem Elohim (In the image of G-d) and on the November 17th we studied Ometz Lev (Courage of the Heart). In Torah on the 3rd, we covered Eden to Babel and on the 17th we studied Joseph. Finally, in Art we did crafts related to the topics: on the 3rd it was hand mirrors and edible self-portraits, on the 17th everyone made a wheel outlining Joseph's Dream and then an edible version of his coat.

We were finally able to resume our Friday Kid and Tot Shabbat on November 1. It is always fun to sing and eat together. We would encourage more families to come. Many of our students are beginning to participate in the service and would appreciate your support. Our next one will be **Friday, December 6 at 6:00**. Please join us.

Happy Holidays!

Miss Helen

Helen Farb, Religious School Chair



Shalom School
Coloring &
Lunch





Sisterhood in the News

The month of November flew by! Before you know it, Thanksgiving will be here. I hope everyone will give a little thanks and donate to Congregation B'nai Torah. If you need any ideas..... I have a great one. Give to your Sisterhood, we need members and donations. We give back to Congregation B'nai Torah in many ways, we are continually raising money for our own congregants. The dues stay in our congregation to benefit our members. All it takes is a single payment of \$36.00 annually. There are several ways to join; submit your payment either online at mybnaitorah.org website, mail it, or drop it off at the CBT office from 9:00am—1:00pm Monday-Friday.

Sisterhood had a dinner this month at BJ Brewhouse, some of our members still work and cannot come to day events, so we try to have some evening events to include everyone. Please try to make those events as well as the day events.

Look what's coming up.....

- **Tuesday December 10th**, Sisterhood Hannukah Party – bring a \$10 gift to exchange and either a dessert or appetizer to share with everyone. Our guest speaker is none other than our very own Rabbi Kane. 7pm at the club house at Trails North Forty 240 Deer Like Circle, Ormond Beach.
- **Sunday December 15th**, Hard Rock Community Hannukah Party - Sisterhood will have a table to sell items from our gift shop. Please contact Barbara Kusnick 985-705-1236 if you can help with working at our sisterhood table.
- **Friday, December 27th**, CBT Shabbat Hannukah Service & Dinner
- **Thursday January 16th**, Game Day at CBT, bring your favorite game and we will supply the snacks and door prizes.

We are always looking for new ideas and members to get involved. Call any of your Sisterhood board members for information.

President.....	Barbara Kusnick
Vice -President	Robin Freedman
Vice – President Programing.....	Netta Wiener
Vice -President Fund Raising.....	Sema Friedman
Vice-President Membership.....	Helen Farb & Marcia Bergman
Secretary.....	Melanie Shiffman
Treasurer & Kitchen Chair.....	Lea Moskowitz

Toda lech (Thank You)

Barbara Kusnick, Sisterhood President

[Download the CBT Sisterhood Membership Application](#)
[HERE](#)

**SHOPPING, SHOPPING, SHOPPING
AT OUR HUGE ESTATE SALE!**



MEN'S CLUB®

Men's Club Upcoming events: Happy Hanukkah from the Men's Club

We have a very busy few months ahead of us. Here are a few opportunities for you to join us:

Rabbi Kane is looking for volunteers to help with the food at the Hard Rock Hanukkah event on December 15. He is envisioning 90-minute shifts, and the Men's Club can really help Rabbi have a successful event. Please reach out directly to him for shift needs and availability. If you are available, please volunteer as soon as possible.

Men's Club has been asked to help upkeep the synagogue grounds. Help will be needed with Yardwork, tree trimming, mulching and more. Please reply to the emails when they come out.

January 8, 7:30pm, will be the inaugural session of the Men's Club Hearing Men's Voices (HMV) program. HMV is a unique program that engages Jewish men in Jewish life, enabling deeper connections and better relationships among our members. It's a facilitated session which encourages men to talk and engage in rich and meaningful dialogues about common issues. The title of this first session is called 'Meet My Father'. I know you will find this unique program stimulating and well worth your time. Snacks will be served. More information to come as we get closer to the event.

Men's Club will again be sponsoring Superbowl Squares, where you can win money and support the Congregation all at the same time! Look for details soon.

The Annual "World Wide Wrap", a opportunity to wrap and learn about the mitzvot of Tefillin, will again be held on **Sunday, Feb 9**, at 10 am. It's a great opportunity to 'tie one on'! Breakfast will be served.

Our congregant, Ray Leonard, who is a retired executive in the Oil industry, will be leading a "Lunch and Learn" discussion on the subject of "Climate Change from an Oil Man's Perspective" on **February 23**, at noon at CBT.

We're planning even more, such as 'Boys Night Out', helping with the religious school's Purim Carnival, Men's Club/Sisterhood Shabbat, a Passover fundraiser, and more.

You can always check the Men's Club page on the CBT website: <https://mybnaitorah.org/mens-club/>

Do you have a great idea for the Men's Club? Contact me: 314-604-5618cbtobmensclub@gmail.com

Thanks! Mark Givarz, CBT Men's Club President

Here's the link to submit: <https://mybnaitorah.org/mens-club-donation/>



We need volunteers for the
Membership and Visiting
Committees.

Please consider volunteering a couple of hours a week or more to visit congregants at nursing homes, the hospital, or their homes. We also need volunteers for the Lunch Buddy Program to take older congregants out for coffee or lunch. We also need volunteers to write welcome cards for new members, to call potential members, to call members who are sick, and to write get-well cards.

If interested, please call Kay at the
CBT Office at (386)672-1174.

**WE NEED
VOLUNTEERS**



Come Enjoy JPGT

**Great company, conversation,
food and friendships!**

All Welcome — Bring a Friend!

THIS MONTH'S BREAKFASTS

Thursday, December 5th & 19th at 9 AM

New Location

**Peach Valley Café
Ormond Beach**



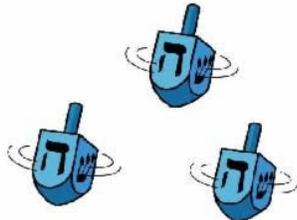


 **The Jewish Federation**
OF VOLUSIA & FLAGLER COUNTIES



PRESENTS
HANUKKAH

at the



918 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach
A Community Wide Pre-Hanukkah Festival

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Festival will include music, vendor booths, crafts, dreidel games, lunch (sandwiches, salads & latkes for purchase), free donuts and chocolate gelt!



Join us for a day of festival food, music and fun!

Meet and take a picture with your favorite friends



FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL

Call (386) 672-0294 for additional information

**Brought to you by the
Jewish Federation of Volusia and Flagler Counties**
in conjunction with
Congregation B'nai Torah, Temple Beth-El,
Temple Beth Shalom Palm Coast and Temple Israel of DeLand

**The Jewish Federation of Volusia and Flagler
Counties cordially invites you to attend**

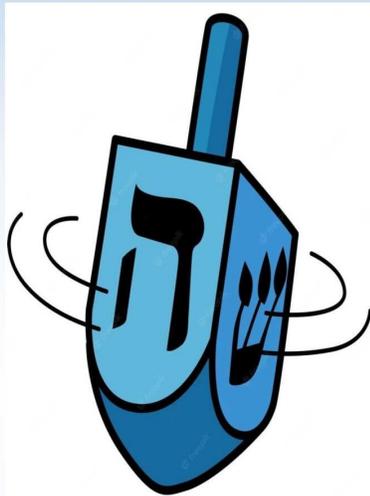
SENIOR HANUKKAH LUNCHEON

Thursday, December 19th, 11 AM at

Temple Beth-El

579 North Nova Road

Ormond Beach, FL 32174



**Please RSVP to Laurie at
Email:**

federationoffice@cfl.rr.com

Phone: 386-672-0294





YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE 2024
CONGREGATION B'NAI TORAH
HANUKKAH SHABBAT
SERVICE & DINNER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27th at 6:00 PM

Shabbat Service will be followed by a delicious dinner of
Bubbie's Magical Meatloaf with latkes, veggies and
all the fixings!
PLUS - Dessert!

CONGREGATION B'NAI TORAH
401 N NOVA RD ORMOND BEACH, FL 32174

ADULTS \$15 - AGES 4-12 \$7

Religious School Students and Under 4 - FREE

LIMITED SEATING

Doors open at 5:30 PM

Please RSVP by 12/13 to
cbtemail@mybnaitorah.org or
386-672-1174 or
www.mybnaitorah.org

Your payment is your confirmation!!

Remember to bring a menorah and 4 candles (3 + 1) to light



Yahrzeit Donations

Edith Plotkin by Sonny Plotkin
Edith Plotkin by Robin Freedman
Max Gerson by Robin Freedman
Elka Chigirinskaya by Lyudmila Chigirinskaya
Harry Gayer by Deena Stein
Terri Trieger by Charles Beck
Louis Stofsky by Irma Sue Stofsky
Harold Leonard by Ray Leonard
Gerald Gerstein by Joan Ravede
Lawrence Liss by Roberta Feldman
Richard Singer by Harvey Singer
Carmen Singer by Harvey Singer
Betty Black by Deena Stein

**Congregation B'nai Torah
mourns the loss of our Congregant**

Dr. Debbie Hettler

**Information about the funeral services will be shared when they
are available. May Debbie's family and friends be comforted
amount the mourners of Zion**

Thank You for Your Kol Nidre Donations

Sue & Irv Abel
Roberta & Norman Feldman
Mariana Machacek
Patrizia & Dr. Mark Rubin
MaryAnn & Dr. Steven Serkin

Zandra & Andy Dattel
Douglas Golden
Leonard Mandell
Arthur Rudick

DECEMBER

december



1 Michael Sznajstajler
4 Alyce Givarz
5 Richard Walters
6 Harvey Morse
10 Eneida Kwetkus
11 Adrienne Cooperman
13 Eileen Selis

13 Daniel Yfrah
17 Jeanne Jaffe
17 Al Fritts
19 Adrienne Offenber
22 Dr. Mark Rubin
27 Dianne Rohald
29 Morris Levy
29 Michael Yfrah

Happy Birthday from Lea & Charles Moskowitz to Michael Sznajstajler, Alyce Givarz, Richard Walters, Harvey Morse, Eneida Kwetkus, Adrienne Cooperman, Eileen Selis, Daniel Yfrah, Jeanne Jaffe, Al Fritts, Adrienne Offenber, Dr. Mark Rubin, Dianne Rohald, Morris Levy, Michael Yfrah

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Vickie & Ken Haberman
Marsha & Dr. Philip Shapiro
Roberta & Norman Feldman
Lisa & Jim Ravede
Laurie & Scott Davis

Violette & Dr. Michael Diamond
Jill & Dr. Alan Goldsmith
Manette & Harry Lasris
Sue & Irv Abel
Robin & Ira Freedman

EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION

A big thank you to the volunteers who helped make our Estate Sale such a success.

Thanks to everyone who helped lead services during Rabbi Kane's vacation.

Thanks for all the volunteers who have helped plan our very busy December.

Rosh Chodesh Kislev for Hebrew Year 5785 will be celebrated from sundown on Sunday, 30 November 2024 through nightfall on Monday, 2 December 2024

BE A CBT MITZVAH MAVEN!

Have an extra hour (or two)? Volunteer!!!

We have several homebound congregants who have found a visit from a CBT Family Member is one of the best ways to bring a smile to their faces.

Interested in spreading some sunshine?

Contact Valerie Kane, our interim Chair of the Visiting Committee at 386-871-9909. You can help assist the elderly members of our congregational family. So please consider joining us with this important mitzvah!

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Sharing a link to AJC's website:

**Resource for reporting Antisemitism to Federal Agencies, Law Enforcement, and Social Media Guidance
(<https://www.ajc.org/ReportingAntisemitism>)**

SPREAD THE NEWS

Richard & Lisa Rhodes's son's wedding was lovely. May Jodi & Lance be blessed with health, happiness and the fulfillment of all their worthy desires.

Virginia & Larry Horowitz should be in their new house in France sometime this month. Mazal Tov!

Valerie and Rabbi Kane enjoyed a visit with our former office assistant Uli who long ago named them as bonus grandparents to her delightful children The Kane's look forward to visiting them sometime in Sweden in the future.



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Mt. Sinai Cemetery ⬠

340 White Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Find us @ mtnsinacemeterydb.org
Or on Facebook [mtnsinaidaytona](https://www.facebook.com/mtnsinaidaytona)
For More information email: mtnsinai@rrh.com



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Sat. 9:00 a.m. - Noon



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386.457.6385 (F)
UFHealth.org

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Deltona, FL 32725

MEMORIAL BOARD

The Sanctuary of Congregation B'nai Torah houses impressive memorial boards. Memorial plaques with the names of our dearly departed loved ones adorn the boards. A brass memorial plaque with the name of your departed loved one inscribed thereon can be added to the Memorial Board for a donation of \$300.

TREE OF LIFE

The Sanctuary of Congregation B'nai Torah houses an impressive Tree of Life, donated by Dr. & Mrs. Richard Rhodes.

Stylized "Leaves" or "Foundation Stones" celebrate any occasion and will be engraved with the name of the celebrated person(s) and any other appropriate information.

A leaf can be added for a donation of \$118. For extra special occasions, a limited number of "Foundation Stones" are available for a donation of \$500.

Please call the office at **(386) 672-1174** if you would like more information about either the Memorial Board or the Tree of Life.



Upcoming Events

Shabbat services start at 7:00 PM each Friday

RESERVE THESE DATES

Tue	Dec 3,10,17,24	7:00 PM	Bible Study with Rabbi Merrill Shapiro
Thu	Dec 5, 19	9:00 AM	JPGT Breakfast, BRUNCH DAYTONA, LPGA
Fri	Dec 6	6:00 PM	Kid & Tot Shabbat
Sun	Dec 8	9:00 AM	Shalom School, Temple Beth-El
Tue	Dec 10	7:00 PM	Sisterhood Hanukkah Party, Trails No Forty Clubhouse
Sun	Dec 15	11:00 AM	Hard Rock Hanukkah
Mon	Dec 16	7:00 PM	CBT Board Meeting
Thu	Dec 19	11:00 AM	Senior Hanukkah Luncheon, Beth-El
Wed	Dec 25/Jan 1		CBT Office Closed for both Federal Holidays
Fri	Dec 27	6:00 PM	Hanukkah Shabbat Service & Dinner

Officers and Trustees

President: Howard Silverstein
Vice President: Mark Givarz
Treasurer: Barbara Singer
Secretary: Doug McEwen
Trustees: Charlie Moskowitz, Sue Abel, Bonnie Berns, Debra Rodensky, Semareva Friedman, Harriet Fritts, Ken Haberman, Ron Horowitz, Eneida Kwetkus and MaryAnn Serkin
Religious School Chair: Helen Farb
Sisterhood: President, Barbara Kusnick
Men's Club: President, Mark Givarz
Past Co-Presidents: Adrienne Cooperman & Robin Freedman

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